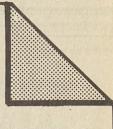


Last day to drop with a "W" is May 13

"Great Leap" dances into Monarch Hall



See below

Thursday

May 9, 1991

VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California

Serving Valley College for 42 years

Vol.42, No.26

NEWS

Graduation and registration dates announced

The deadline for filing for summer graduation is Friday, May 24 at 4 p.m. Petitions are available in the graduation office. Both new and continuing students may file applications for summer school beginning May 13 at the West Counter in Admissions. Priority appointments for continuing students to register for classes are scheduled for June 24 and 25. Summer classes will begin July 1 and continue through August 9.

Library weekend hours extended for finals

The library will extend its weekend hours in May on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In June, the hours will be the same except it will be open until 4 p.m. on Sun-

Marines offer two \$70,000 scholarships

The marines are looking for a few good men and women for two scholarships. The qualifications are that the applicant be a citizen and score above 1,000 on the S.A.T. and 50 or above on the ASVAB. The applicant must also be willing to join the reserves. For more information on these scholarships, call Staff Sargeant Murphy at 345-3399. The deadline is May 15.

LAVC student takes first place at fashion symposium at state level

LAVC student Mary Margaret Stratton took first place in a statwide community college symposium last week. Christine Rona and Maryam Javaheri two other students received honorable mentions for their entries. Fourteen other colleges participated in this

Students voice views on abortion issue in survey

In a survey conducted by the Pro-choice club, 186 students said they supported "the access of every woman, regardless of age or income to full access to a safe legal abortion...". 40 students said they would not support this view, while seven of the rest surveyed abstain-

Admittance is free for "A Perfect Match"

"A Perfect Match", a one-act play about a computer dating service, will open May 17 and 18 in the Shoebox Theater. Performances start at 8 p.m.

Spring dance concert celebrates 25th year

The annual spring dance concert will mark 25 years of performances featuring Valley dancers, choreographers, and guest dancers. Ethnic dances will be featured this year, and the performances are on May 16 and 17 at 8

Free speech BRIEFS cancelled due to lack of funds

Editor in Chief

The Valley Star, which is a learning lab for two journalism classes, has been cancelled because of lack of funding by the Los Angeles Community College District.

The journalism department was denied additional funding this week by Dr. Mary E. Lee, president of

Lee said there was no additional funding in the LAVC budget to allow the Star to publish its last three issues this semester which would have cost between \$1,500 and

However, the students and faculty of the Star staff are making attempts to obtain outside funding from other sources.

Assisting in this endeavor are Jesse Hernandez, ASU commissioner of public relations, Ignacio Izaquirre, ASU commissioner of Asian concerns and the Great Leap dance troupe.

been systematically slashed by more than half.

Each paper costs between \$500 -\$700 to print. The 1990-91 budget was \$13,930.

"In my 20 years here," said Roger Graham, chairperson of the journalism department, "this is the first time the Star had to stop publishing before the end of the semester. It's a sad day for college journalism.'

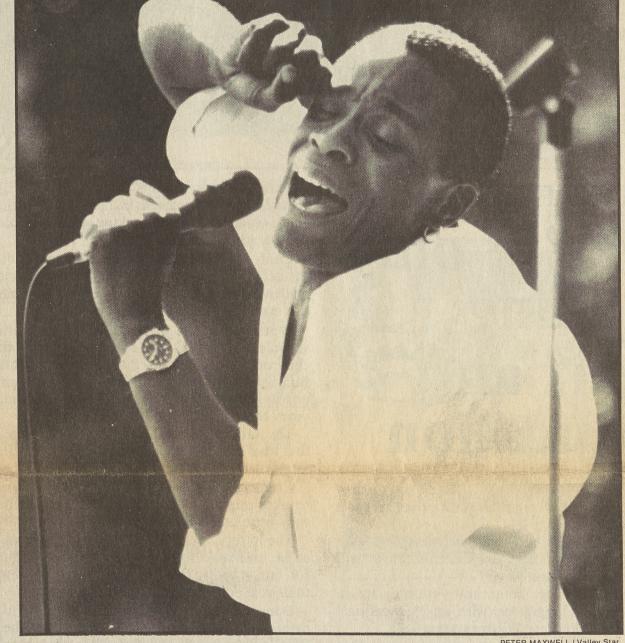
Lee told the journalism faculty that every department at LAVC has been cut due to the LACCD budget

Funding was provided, however, for Crown magazine.

"I am thankful that President Lee was able to find the funds to publish Crown magazine this semester,' Graham said.

At press time, it was unknown whether the Star would be able to continue to publish any of its remaining scheduled issues this

All that jazz...



SWEET SOUND - Carl Anderson gets into his music at the annual Playboy Jazz Festival, held in Monarch Square last Sunday

"Great Leap" offers up 'slice'

Phone home...



JOHN PHILLIPS / Valley Star

HELLOOOO - Student Shannon Elldrege helps her daughter Brittney make a phone call on campus.

Teacher assaulted by former student

By JENNIFER CASE **News Editor**

Speech teacher Betty Ballew was assaulted by a former student last Thursday near the Life Science building as she was walking from her

Ballew, who was walking from the bungalow area after class to her office in the Humanities Building, passed by the student whom she recognized, and said "hello"

The student did not respond, so Ballew continued to her office.

Suddenly, the student turned around and lunged at her face with his hands, knocking her to the

Ballew received minor injuries from the attack. She has a few small cuts on her face where her glasses were smashed against her temples, and a small laceration on her elbow from

Ballew said she dropped the student from one of her classes because of poor attendance and low grades, but she is not sure why he attacked her.

A report was made to campus police, and she said she hopes that the

attack was an isolated incident. "I would assume this was an isolated incident," she said. "I would like to think that we (teachers) could feel safe in our schools."

of Asian cultural awareness One of the cast members Nobuko Miyamoto, who choreographed and contributed music to the movie 'Karate Kid II'', said Hollywood

ing right now. "It's beginning to happen in some films on a small scale, but there's still a big gap between reality and the stories they're telling," Miyamoto told the Star Bulletin.

hasn't quite given justice to the pro-

blems asians and other races are fac-

"A Slice of Rice" is follows the same lines of promoting cultural

" It's top rate entertainment," Jesse Hernandez, Commissioner of Public Relations said.

"This is a very talented cast, especially when it comes to the music, where the scenes really sparkle," a Daily News review

"Great Leap" will perform Friday, May 10 at 8 p.m. in Monarch Hall. Admission is \$5.00, but a drawing for free tickets is being held by ASU. (See ad pg. 3) The presentation is sponsored by Commissioner of Asian Concerns and affirmative

ASU president-elect to solicit student involvement

By JENNIFER CASE **News Editor**

Newly elected Associated Students Union President Erica Hauck, and administration of justice major, is looking forward to getting more students involved with ASU during her upcoming one year

"I'd like to reach a couple of more students to get rid of the apathy on campus," she said.

Hauck decided to get involved with ASU after she heard there was an opening for the position of Gay and Lesbian Concerns.

"I was president of GALA and decided to sit in on a couple of meetings. I thought they were pretty exciting," she said.

After the meeting, she became Commissioner of Gay and Lesbian

Concerns, and went on to be the Commissioner of Campus Improvements, treasurer, and now

She will take over for current President Alaine Jelsvik who Hauck said inspired her. "She taught me a lot. She showed

me how to get things done," Hauck said about Jelsvik. Working with Hauck will be Jesse

Hernandez as vice-president and Rene Chavez as treasurer. "I'm happy with my staff.

They've got experience and knowledge," she said.

She admitted her ultimate goal is to get more departmental support and to make more people aware of

"By the end of my term, I want everyone to know about ASU," she



"Great Leap," a group of Asian

performers, who incorporate music,

dance, drama and multi-imagery in-

to their presentations will perform

their latest offering "A Slice of

formances incuding "Talk Story,",

a musical promoting cultural

heritage, received three stars from

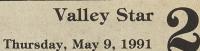
The troop is noted for past per-

Rice" Friday in Monarch Hall.

The Daily News.

News Editor

PRESIDENT ELECT - Hauck will assume office on July 1





STAR EDITORIAL

We're only getting half an education

"LAVC - the college of choice." says a promotional pamphlet in the ASU office. What a

With budget cuts only beginning to take their toll, the choices students have will become fewer and fewer.

It's no wonder community colleges are in such critical condition with an "education" governor like Pete Wilson.

The worst part of the whole game that politicians play is that the students lose. The students lose out on education at a time when our country is crying out for more educated and skilled workers that can handle the kind of technology we use today.

With each new budget cut, an essential arm or leg of our California educational system is amputated.

This economic crisis is the worst California schools have ever been in. For such a rich state, we are poor and lacking when it comes to education.

California colleges and universities will need to accommodate more than 700,000 additional students in the next 15 years and the money just won't be there for them.

Worse yet is the physical condition of the schools. At LAVC some of the seats in the classrooms are more than 40 years old. Bungalows, which were supposed to be temporary buildings, have been here too many years to be called temporary any more.

The saddest part of the whole situation is that the funding schools do receive is being stripped away source by source.

Compounding the problem, some funding sources are either unreliable or just not what they were cracked up to be.

The lottery, for example, is a nicely packaged lie. Instead of providing additional funding for our schools, this money is spent on items that were formerly covered by the state.

Education should be on the top of the priority list. Legislators hear from the teachers protesting cuts all the time, but they rarely hear from students because students just don't know what is at stake.

By not letting legislators know that we object to these cuts, we are agreeing with them. One letter from every student could make a difference. If our legislator received a letter a day, it might help to keep Governor Wilson away. Isn't one letter worth your education?

Testing: one, two,

By JULIE D. BAILEY Special to the Star

Waaaaaiiiiillll! This is a test of the emergency state of education government, community, and stud-

This has been a test of the emergency state of education government, community, and student response system.

In the event of an actual emergency, government would be ineffectual at best and causing the problem by ignorant, uninformed, undisciplined, and non-existant leadership at worse.

Budgets would be systematically slashed. Classes would be eliminated semester after semester until each discipline could only offer enough classes to get a student started but not enough to graduate.

Teachers would be fired or waiting to be fired. As in the case of a teacher who recently received an award for outstanding innovation in education personally presented to him by Governor Wilson. Accepting his award the teacher informed Wilson he (the teacher) had just received a pink slip.

There would be more part time than full time teachers and the vacant positions of most retiring tenured professers would not be fill-

The community would be mostly inert except for a few businesses who might catch on to the motion that they can't run successful profitproducing companies with employees who can't read, analytically evaluate any given situation or add two numbers together.

The voting community would know that they don't want any more taxes but not much beyond that.

And, the vast bulk of the American public sector would be unaccounted for. Then again, they gave up the idea of democracy years ago when they stopped voting and since then do not act but are merely been acted upon.

Students, despite any previous educational input to the contrary, would dumbly watch their futures being ripped away from them incapable or unwilling to form any

organized response. Although able to read and write, at least most of them, they won't write letters to their school newspapers, local newspapers, or government representatives.

They won't talk to their fellowemployees or employers about the need for their help.

They won't organize or take part in demonstrations for education on their campuses and the majority of them won't even vote for educational issues

There will be exceptions to the rule but these will be few and far between and most definitely unorganized.

The Associated Student Union on the LAVC campus has been more politically active this semester. However, they still have a long way to go before attaining the political activism of some of their predecessors.

Even if they were raging radicals, it wouldn't make too much difference. The majority of students on this campus are not members of ASU and don't vote in ASU elections. This, in spite of the fact that the elections have been opened up to

non-member voting. Only a smattering of the total student population presently attends or participates in ASU-sponsored activities. If you had a Students for Education demonstration you would probably have to pay them to participate.

Isn't it fortunate this has only been a test considering there is no government, community and student response system to the state of education? That is why the test space is blank!

Letters to the Editor

Pro-Choice Energizers not getting equal time.

To The Editor:

During this Spring the Pro-Choice Energizers have repeatedly tried to get fair representation from the editors of the Valley Star, However, these efforts have been futile.

Instead we have been called the Pro-Choice Engineers, we have had our events printed without their dates, times, or locations. When listed with the Collegians for Life during the debate, their name was written with capital letters, while ours was not.

Though these may seem trivial, a journalist's job is to present the

facts in an unbiased manner.

If he or she is preparing for a career in this field, then one should work on a professional level as would be expected at any major newspaper.

The Pro-Choice Energizers expect to be represented in a fair manner, as do all of the clubs at Valley College. In the last edition of the Valley Star, our club was the only one not listed in the event calender. In all fairness, it should have said: Monday-May 6, 12:00-Pro-Choice Energizers meeting, H-101.

To avoid future confusion, here are our last meeting times: Monday, May 13 and 20, 12 P.M. in H-101.

> Donna Piluso Club Presdent

Campus discrimination still under attack.

To The Editor:

I was pleased to see a response from Mary Spangler, acting Dean of Admissions, to my opinion article "Campus Racism" (Valley Star 4/25/91 issue).

A couple of years ago I had addressed this issue on the pages of this publication and no administrator cared to take a stand as Ms. Spangler did.

Although, I became disappointed when I noticed that Ms. Spangler, rather than recognizing the existing conflict decided to question my integrity and my writing skills.

I realize that Ms. Spangler has only been in that position for a relatively short time, therefore, she may not be aware of the ills that affect the office now under her supervision. It is also possible that under her direction these problems have been corrected. If so, she

deserves admiration.

Unfortunately for Ms. Spangler, the discriminatory practices in the office she oversees have become a periodical practice. Those who work there and are guilty know what I'm talking about and the others who are not, should not worry.

While I was Commissioner of Chicano Studies for the Los Angeles Valley College Associated Student Union, I also worked voluntarily through the Counseling office and the Office of Instruction going to local high schools to motivate young students to continue into a higher education. At the same time, I promoted Valley College as a stepping stone in their aspirations.

Immigrant youngsters expressed the fear of being rejected acceptance to a college due to their unstable migratory status in this country. One of my responsibilities was to inform them of their rights to an education and I emphasized for them to report to the respective officials or to contact me if they were ever mistreated.

I recall a substantial amount of cases being reported. Undoubtedly, Valley's admissions officials were aware of these instances; my sister was a victim of their blatant

discrimination. One of the clerks humiliated and harassed her, I personally had to scream at the clerk. She was trying to register for the first time.

My sister's case was not the only one, I witnessed other young men and women leaving campus with tears in their eyes after a horrible experience with one of the clerks.

I must add that these cases are not aberrations, I'm willing to present the appropriate documentation and introduce Ms. Spangler to those which were once discriminated against at LAVC.

I will however, only do so at an appropriate forum, the Board of Trustees, for instance.

Juan Morillo

Valley Star

Published each Thursday throughout the school year by students in the advanced writing, editing, photography and typesetting classes of the journalism department.

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* LETTERS * LETTERS * LETTERS * LETTERS *

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from Its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if



they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious

denigrations. Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

Teacher offers dramatic battle of opposing political viewpoints

By KIM THRASHER Staff Writer

Sitting behind his tidy, uncluttered desk, his face framed by wall-to-wall books neatly tucked away, Donald Schmidt, a political science and American history instructor at LAVC admits that his life has been an exercise in trial and error.

'Life is like walking through a blackened room full of furniture, all you do is stumble from chair to table knocking things over, groping your way to the other side," says Schmidt. "If we could go through it (life) two or three times we would know what to avoid, but we don't have that luxury," he adds.
Schmidt, who has been married to

his wife Anne for 35 years and has two children, David, 34, and Elaine, 29, says he believes the American dream is still alive. "I had a lot to get out of to get where I am today-to establish a new level for my family," Schmidt says, referring to his

childhood. Schmidt grew up living in poverty stricken rural Iowa during the depression. He was a child from a divorced home and his family background didn't include formal education. Schmidt's life today as a college professor, husband and father is a brilliant contrast to his childhood. He said that a peoples freedom to make a better life for themselves is one of the great aspects of America.

His strongest memories of his childhood are of reading historical books about far off places and dreaming of becoming a major-league baseball player. Though Schmidt became a history teacher, his dream was realized in the life of his son, David, a pitcher currently signed with the Montreal Expos.

Schmidt has a very close relationship with his son, fostered by the responsibility as a political science years spent involved with baseball while his son was growing up. "His here is to give the students a sense of

career is so stressful. If he has a bad game I call him to give support because when you're low it's very lonely out in the middle of a majorleague baseball field," Schmidt says.

Schmidt is very proud of his son and that is evidenced by the series of photographs displayed in his office. He admits that as he watches David's games by satellite he is tempted to coach his son but he adds with a smile, "He's a veteran now so I don't need to give him counsel."

David has been playing major-league baseball for 10 years. He was drafted by the Texas Rangers, where he remained for five years. After the Rangers, he spent one year with the Chicago White Sox; then moved onto Orioles. He has been with the Expo's for the past year.

Schmidt said his personal philosophy is to "do a good job." He added, "I tried to give that philosophy to David and Elaine. I think it's worked very well. I think people know me as someone who comes to work prepared and that's the way I want to be viewed."

Schmidt, who obtained his B.S. from Andrews University and his M.A. from Cal State Northridge, had a double major of business and history. After he graduated, he found he disliked business and decided to teach history.

He has taught history at LAVC since 1970 and taught at the high school level for the Los Angeles public school system for 12 years prior to that. Schmidt says he is enjoying his teaching career more now than ever in his 33 years of teaching.

He attributes his teaching enjoyment to his command of the subjects, political science and American history, and he says he feels his students appreciate his presentation.

However, Schmidt takes his teacher very seriously. "My role

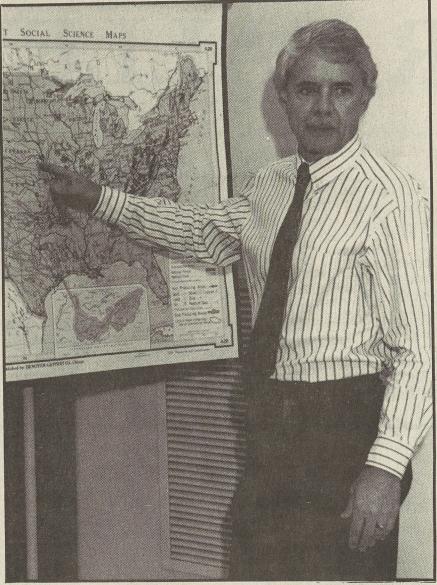
the dramatic battle between opposing political ideas, a general liberal and a general conservative idea," he says. "I find it very challenging to see if I can do a better job every year of simply educating my students not converting them. I think my job, all of us as teachers, should be to educate in the broadest sense of the word," he adds.

Schmidt recalls that the political science and American history classes which he took as a student were very one sided, giving only the political view of the teacher. Schmidt says, "I have a responsibility to inform you (the student) on both (political parties) so that you can do a better job, within your own value three years with the Baltimore judgements, of choosing which side

Last December, Schmidt was part of a team of scholars from various parts of the United States who went to Germany to witness the citizens of a united Germany vote as one for the first time in 50 years.

Schmidt recalls when he was in high school witnessing another historical event-General Douglas MacArthur's return home from Korea, All over Chicago, schools were let out early. Schmidt and his friends joined thousands of people who lined the streets to see MacArthur's motorcade pass by. He waited there with strangers for hours to catch a five second glimpse of the returning World War II hero.

Schmidt recognizes that period, post World War II, as a dramatic time in history. He felt the chill of the Cold War threats and now says that with the end of the Cold War the current world political climate looks generally positive. He concluded, "In the last two years we finally have found ourselves in a period without an intense international threat, military threat, without deep economic chaos. I think we live, perhaps, in the best of



MAPPING A WAY FOR STUDENTS — Political Science and History Professor Donald Schmidt trys to provide a balanced view in his classes.

News Notes

Scholarships Offered

To encourage academic progress among Jewish students at LAVC and Pierce College, the Friedman Scholarships and Kadimah Scholarship have been established at Valley-Pierce Hillel.

The scholarships total \$4500 with applications and information for both scholarships available at the Hillel office.

Applications are due by May 24, along with transcripts.

On-site Admissions

The Extended Opportunities, Programs and Services (EOP&S) has been working with representatives of the CSUN transfer center to begin an "on-site admissions project" where eligible students could process all paper work and meet with CSUN representatives on this campus.

"Heal the Bay to speak"

Valley Green, an environmental campus club, will sponsor a speaker from "Heal the Bay" on May 15 at 9 a.m. in Monarch Hall. The topic will be pollution in the bay. Valley Green will also be holding elections on May 20 in CC 205 at 1 p.m. for next semester's officers.

FREE TICKETS DRAWING!

WIN 2 TICKETS TO May 10th Performance of A SLICE OF LIFE

5 Pairs Of Tickets Will Be Given Away In A Drawing To Be Held At NOON -TOMORROW

TO ENTER: Write your name and phone number on a plain 3x5 card and drop it into the FREE TICKETS DRAWING box in the ASU office CC 102 by 11:45am - Friday May 10th. Winners will be notified.

For performance time and place - see ad this page.

GREAT LEAP

A Slice of Rice

Presentation

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

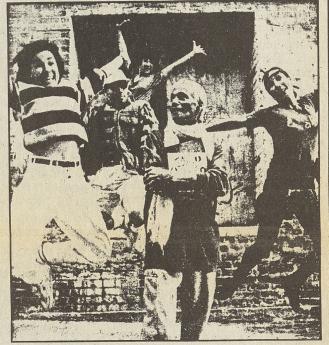
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See Page 5

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FOUR VALLEY POETS...

Four Valley Poets "arose out of a discussion, as many projects do arise," says Les Boston, editor and publisher.

Boston, a former English professor at LAVC and Dr. William Wallis, LAVC English professor and poet, were officemates in the spring of 1989.

One day, Boston mentioned a book he had encountered many years before called Eight Harvard Poets (Lawrence J. Gomme, 1917). Boston thought they "might modestly offer Four Valley Poets."

The idea was born.

The following summer, Boston retired from LAVC and started Stone and Scott Publishers

(old family names). Four Valley Poets was off the ground.

Boston knew Wallis and Terry Martin, LAVC instructor of English, had enough poetry to fill a book.

The idea of adding a couple students came

Ann Stanton and Michael Marth were selected because each had "a body of work that would make a significant contribution,"

After the poets had been selected, their poems underwent the usual editing and revis-

ing stages of any new book. John Zounes, LAVC English professor, wrote an introduction that Boston, and all the poets, have labeled with multiple positive ad-

"Getting Mr Zounes to do the introduction was especially valuable," Boston says. "That introduction is excellent."

The poets also unanimously praised Boston for his hard work. "That's beside the point," Boston says modestly. "It came out to be a good book."

Four Valley Poets became a reality in July,

These two pages contain interviews with each of the poets, as well as a sampling of their poetry from Four Valley Poets, that they each selected to be reprinted.

Inspiration in the "dark side"

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL **Editor in Chief**

Michael Marth describes himself as "a dark side prober."

"In the grand tradition of poetry, I seek the recesses of truth, the depth of verities-not to inspire," he says. "Actually, the inspiration is in the verities uncovered in the dark side of poetry."

Marth, 54, one of the student poets in Four Valley Poets, is described in John Zounes' introduction as 'grizzled, gently gruff, he goes for the stoical aside that wants to sound both street-smart and country-bred."

"I thought he was right on when he identified my forte as a persona," Marth says. "I'm a realist." "Passion," Marth replies simply about what promp-

ted him to begin writing poetry 15 years ago. Some of his passion is for his family. In "They Call Me Papa" he writes about his grandchildren at a birth-

"I love writing about my grandchildren and my family," he says. "We're close. In some wild sense, I probably think of all I do as being a legacy to them.'

He writes about a close friend of his in "Another Drum Silenced," but he says, he is describing all poets and the struggles they encounter in trying to support themselves as poets. "You begin to doubt yourself," he says. The poem concludes:

my friend howard an award winning writer literate and smart simply gave up poetry and started submitting articles to motorcycle magazines he hasn't sold but says he's happy he plans to become a bartender.

Marth describes himself, first and foremost, as a poet. He writes poetry everyday.

He also teaches a poetry workshop. "I should say taught," he clarifies.

Initially, he taught the workshop, but later turned it over to the participants. They rotate leadership weekly and write on one topic each week. Marth is the, "designated laureate," he says. The workshop is a year and a half old now.

Marths involvement in Four Valley Poets happened when he was a student at LAVC.

"I'm sold on continuing education," he says. "Just about anywhere I land, I go to the [college] to acquire skills and information.

Marth landed in Les Boston's (Four Valley Poets editor and publisher) independent study English class. For his project, he gave Boston a book of poetry called Hanging By My Tounge. Boston was impressed and

Marth was invited to participate in Four Valley Poets. His favorite of his poems in the book is "Growing Up in La La Land." Zounes' introduction concurs and tells the reader to give the poem a second look. He says he has received a lot of comments on the poem which is about "remembering ourselves," as Zounes writes.

For 15 years, Marth was an editor for the Daily News. When he left, he decided to "fuse the discipline I learned in journalism with the classical elegance in poetry.' Besides poetry, Marth writes short stories and magazine articles. He also sculpts and plays guitar.

The Arrangement

He wanted her to be an airline stewardess or an executive secretary or a nurse she does a 5-9 gig at the meat rack dancing with less than he's seen her in and he says nothing it's hardly either's expectations

it's been bad between us but she was genuinely charming when we talked about it like she'd discovered a concerned listener in life for the first time

i don't wear string bikinis they seem to prefer a little more it makes them imagine they can see something i guess it was cynical

i wanted to tell her keep your sense of art and person don't start hating men and don't depreciate your own passion but i said nothing

so her dad picks her up every night growling at hustlers and remembering when she was an armful of love with chicken pox just 23 years ago and both have a little trouble falling asleep.

-Michael Marth

Writing on the "edge"

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL **Editor in Chief**

Meticulously crunching his styrofoam coffee cup with his hands, Terry Martin, LAVC English instructor, speaks of the first poem he wrote. "It was an awful poem that was a derivative of Victor Hugo," he says. "It read like badly translated French poetry."

Initially reluctant to have his poetry published in Four Valley Poets, Martin now says he is "overjoyed that they chose me [as one of the poets]."

"I resisted it all the way down the line. When Les Boston (Four Valley Poets editor) kept sending me notes asking for work, I stalled and stalled and stalled," he says. "If it weren't for Les' and Bill's (fellow Four Valley Poets poet) persistence and commitment, I don't think I would have been involved. It's a little intimidating being asked, but they did a wonderful job; and I think John Zounes' introduction is one of the best things in the book."

Zounes' introduction describes Martin's poetry as "on edge.

"Reading Terence Martin," Zounes writes, "is like being forced to hitch a ride...and along comes this erratic driver who offers a trip along with the ride. You didn't want the trip, just the ride, but...they're one and the same, so you sit back and enjoy both."

Martin likes the introduction, but says he is "too busy driving to notice how the passenger is feeling."

Martin's poems reveal a sensitivity, particularly toward people he has seen but not met. "Lunch Counter" is one of those poems.

"When I was a little kid and I watched people eat dinner or lunch alone at a lunch counter, it always affected me," Martin says. "I always thought it was sort of sad, and the fact that they were eating alone seemed to make it sadder.

"It's a perception that sat there for years and years until that poem came out. That's what "Lunch Counter" is about." 'Lunch Counter' was the first of

Martin's poems to be published; it appeared in the CSUN literary magazine. Martin has been writing poetry since he was seven or eight years old and says he has written more poems

than he can count. He is a "laboriously slow" writer, though, and many of his poems go through multiple drafts before producing a finished work.

"Walton's Thumb," a relatively short Four Valley Poets poem, went through 50 or 60 pages before it was completed. Not one word of the original appeared on the final draft.

One exception to this is "Roomates" which begins, "Due to a severe housing shortage/ Dracula and Narcissus, unable/ To get work, have become/ Roomates...

Martin wrote the first draft of "Roomates", which was very near to the final draft, in less than an

Initially, he wanted to write a series of poems on modern mythology. He chose horror movie characters because, he says, horror movies embody our darkest visions.

That was the thought behind "Roomates;" pairing the odd combination of Dracula and Narcissus who have a relationship to mirrors.

However, when he wrote the poem he was in the midst of a divorce and it wasn't until about a year later that he realized "Roomates" was about all roomates and relationships in the state of "busting up."

His favorite of his Four Valley Poets poems is a haiku called Sky

> Leaves in the shapes of birds Float south for the winter. Orange words on blue paper.

"I think that is the best I can do," he says of Sky Water. "It does everything that I want poetry to do for me. It's compressed and it's unparaphraseable.

Martin pauses for a second."It does seem a little pretentious to talk about one's own work," he says.

Poetry has been taking a back seat for the last year, though. Martin's poetic impulses are now channeled into songwriting.

He is the lead singer and songwriter, and also plays the guitar and keyboards, for a band called

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"White Noise" which plays regularly in various Los Angeles nightclubs.

Martin has been playing in one band or another for years, but says "White Noise" is the first group he's played in where it's been all his material. They have been together for about a year and a half.

Although his poetry has been put on hold, he says some of the songs he writes are adaptations of some of his earlier poems.

"The ironic thing is that some of the worst poems I've written have made some of the best songs," he says. "Some of the failed poems hadn't reached what they were looking for and the song helped them

Martin seems to have found his niche as well, both in songwriting and in teaching.

He says he can't believe he gets paid to teach, to talk about books

"I like the dynamics of what happens when you have 25, 30, 40 people in a room together and you're talking about something other than the latest Madonna video, he says. "I like that you can have 40 people in a room talking about the tone of a sentence, about the imagery in a poem. The fact that that happens, to me, is amazing-and that they'll pay me to participate is extraor-

dinary.' London-born Martin grew up in Los Angeles, but really has his sights set on living in New England. He seems elusive about his future

words, my songs," he says. Wherever Martin is and whatever he does, though, he will be writing. "I have to write," he says. "I don't have any choice."

plans, "I want people to hear my

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Only once. -Terry Martin



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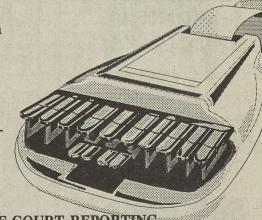
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Poet pens personally

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL **Editor in Chief**

"One of the wonderful things about being a parent is that you get to find yourself in your children," Dr. William Wallis, LAVC professor of English, says with love for his six year old son, Asher, glowing from his face. His son has been the subject of many of his poems.

Wallis is no stranger to poetry. "Every book is a miracle," he says. "Especially a book of poetry."

If that is the case, then Wallis has experienced five miracles. Before Four Valley Poets, he had two books of poetry published, the first was Poems (Blue Stem Press, 1972), followed by Biographer's Notes (Yellow Barn Press, 1984). FVP was third. Within the next few weeks, two more poetry books by Wallis will be published.

Ruth is a book of poems in memory of Wallis' mother who died in 1989.

The other, Asher, is a book of poems for, and about, his son.

"The reason I celebrate my love for my son in this book is because he has taught me more about myself than I could have ever learned from anyone else in the world," he says.

Wallis says he has been criticized by people who want him to write more "public poetry" about the starving in Africa or injustice in the world. He says he does write that kind of poetry, but the essence of poetry begins in the heart and soul.

"I know how I feel about my mother and my son," he says. "You start close and work out."

One day, Wallis says, he will write about all the pain in the world. He does touch on other topics, though.

One poem in Four Valley Poets is called "Of the Few Things I Do Know," it begins, "I know how the Devil will appear./ He will sit prim and quiet in the class rear..." The poem was written about an LAVC faculty member.

"It was very strange," Wallis recalls. "Whenever he was around everything went terribly wrong... things would just fall apart."

Wallis says he got the feeling that that innocuous kind of laid back person would resemble the Devil if

he were to appear. "On the Death of a Colleague"

Photos by Blanca L. Adajian

has a double meaning. The poem is addressed to Wallis' mother. The man who has died was a famous literary critic named Marvin Mudrick. "The poem is about the death of a person imprisoned in the academic world," Wallis says.

The key statement in the poem, he says, is, "Had I loved him as I do you, dear friend/ I would wish him flight, as the hawk dreams/ Wingless its path;...

"It's a very curious poem,

Wallis is one of the LAVC English professors who use Four Valley Poets as a textbook. Teaching his own poetry does spark St. Stephens Square, Vienna

Asher at four months stands steady on my reclining torso Watches the autumn crowd blur by. I see only him. Gradually he tires, aims his layered bulk To fall heavy on my chest, then clamors up Toward the silver coins of my spectacles. We come face to face, the crowd distant. Then tiny fingers clasp my face, Rough temples, plop fingertips On slit lids, tweak jug handle ears, Honk my nose—then he leans Casually into my mouth. Cheek to cheek, we lovers stay a while Drifting alone, until his arms slip And he falls deeper yet, into sleep. I consider the color washed sky While above us rise the graceful dimensions of St. Stephen's,

Line upon line interweaving in ascension, Matrimonie of form and purpose signifying harmony.

A need beyond understanding Has settled here in waking stone. Here, where my son's sweet pulse is my own. Let me know your face,

Let me know your eyes. Come, Asher, look up now from dream As longing rises in stone, And silent forms stream by us below. Whisper to me from sleep, dear son,

Here in spires' shadow, Tell us how we may all touch each other Deeper than this stony flesh allows.

-William Wallis

some "curious" feelings within him, he says.

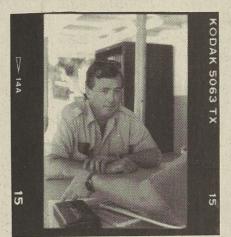
"Reading your own verse is like opening your soul, exposing your innermost self to people," he says. Poetry is not the only art Wallis has been immersed in.

From 1978-1983, he was in Hannover, West Germany studying voice and beginning a singing career. To support himself, he worked as a director in the Hannover Opera House.

As he was establishing himself as a singer, he met his wife Leslie. She was a dancer, but had injured herself. She wanted to return to the United States. Wallis thought moving and having a family were more important than his career in Germany, so they returned.

After a tough year of being unemployed, he began teaching at UC Santa Barbara in 1984. He commuted there from Los Angeles until he began teaching at LAVC in 1988.

Wallis also worked as a stage director and actor and an opera singer-mostly in Europe and in the German language. He's also written several librettos, including Hanblecheya, A Vision, which was set by composer Richard Moore and



Colored Lights

Insinuating his body across the boards, he honky-tonked himself into the spotlight and my heart,

turning me into a female closet Cyrano, who'd hide in the folds of the audience's darkness, trumpeting lust through the nose for that Rox-Anima-Animus up there on stage.

And I still journey back in my mind sometimes, plowing through the gristle and fat, the girth of the Godfather, the shadowy Kurtz, burning through that final tango's buttered heat, reaching at last the pure primal wondrous core of Stanley Kowalski, Mark Antony, Terry Malloy,

-Ann Stanton

performed for the U.S. Bicentennial "Poets," he says, "have to stay independent enough to write their verse and together enough to get published."

and Bud.

As the first line of the foreword from Asher says, "My poetry works intuitively toward the soul from patterns of self- knowledge."

Looking life "right in the eye"

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL **Editor in Chief**

"I was so honored because in my own life I can be a real jerk, but in my poetry, I try to look things right in the eye,"A.C.L (Ann) Stanton says.

Stanton is commenting on John Zounes' introduction of her work in Four Valley Poets.

Zounes writes, "Her work is that of a realist...who looks squarely at what is there and comments on it."

Stanton, one of the two student poets in Four Valley Poets, began "seriously" writing after the encouragement she received while in Les Boston's (Four Valley Poets editor and publisher) English class.

"I think I knocked off something when I was a kid," Stanton says of her poetic beginnings. "But it was Les Boston and his encouragement that got me writing seriously."

Stanton's poetic inspiration is everyday life. One example is "Tar Pits." "I saw a pigeon that had been tarred and it drove me

nuts," she says. "I came home and wrote 'Tar Pits'."
"Chatelaine" was written for Stanton's mother. A chatelaine is a piece of jewelry with antique and semiprecious stones. Her mother owned one. Writing "Chatelaine" made Stanton think of her mother and her mother's life.

Writing "The Fast Exit," Stanton thought she was writing about an old lady she knows who is in a nursing home. She later realized she had written the poem just as much about herself as the lady. "I prefer a fast exit," she says. "I don't want to hang around too long and be a burden to anyone."

Zounes' introduction doles out high praise for Stanton's "Colored Lights," calling it her "piec de resistance.'

"Colored Lights" was written about Marlon Brando. "It's my old Marlon Brando thing," Stanton says. "I'm telling you, when I sat in that theater and saw him in Streetcar [Named Desire], it was really a fabulous ex-

"Those warm places in you never really grow cold," she adds. "In remembering, they never really go away." Some of Stanton's poems were written for sillier

In her poem, "Inside the Cat" Stanton tries to get inside her cat Linda and write about how Linda a "very royal creature" might feel.

"It's an attitude," she says. "I'm very communicative as far as animals go. I connect to them very

"Billy Graham" was written for a teacher Stanton had who referred to him as graham cracker. "I did it to please him," she says, "The Almost One" is her favorite of her poems in the

book; it is about the loss of a child.

Stanton says she had been thinking about the subject for a while and when she finally exercised the thoughts she had, the poem just "came pouring out." After writing it, Stanton says she telt a peace.

She still writes daily, poetry as well as fiction, although, she says she is not very disciplined. She is tak-

ing a workshop at LAVC, also.

A "terrible movie buff," Stanton also enjoys traveling. She is happily married and has two grown children.



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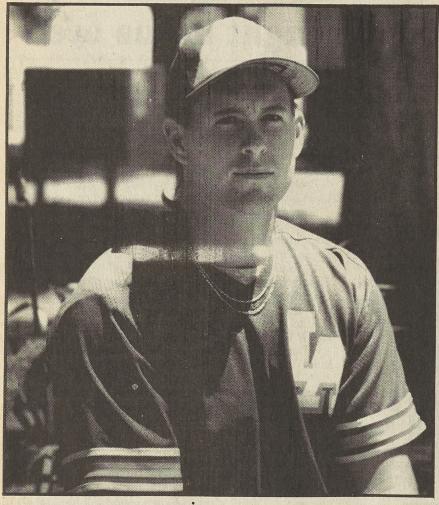
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Rob Kostenbader:

LAVC DH MVP



HARD-LINE HITTER — Kostenbader: Maturer, wiser—ready to play.

By G.L. MARTINEZ Staff Writer

The eyes tell the story. An opposing pitcher stares intently at his target. The batter, LAVC designated hitter Rob Kostenbader, locks onto him with a cold glare in search of the ultimate satisfaction.

As the pitcher makes his delivery he quickly finds himself in the path of the baseball that he just released moments ago.

Result: another shot up the middle for Kostenbader. "When I go up to hit the most

satisfying thing to me is to hit a line drive right over the pitcher's head or right past him," Kostenbader said. Kostenbader, at 6'1, 200 pounds, graduated from Norte Dame High

1988 but waited two years before finally returning to the game he fell in love with when he was nine. "I redshirted my first year and

then took last year off because I needed to work," he said.

The time away from baseball helped Kostenbader mature as an individual and successfully apply that growth toward becoming a better athlete.

"When I took the year off I wasn't planning on playing again this year but when I was away from the game for only a few months I really realized how much I missed it," he said.

Armed with a stronger outlook on life, Kostenbader initiated his triumphant return to baseball. He spent most of the year as the designated hitter batting .311 with 23 hits in 74 at bats all in WSC play. He scored 11 runs, drew 18 walks and had seven runs batted in.

Kostenbader also enjoyed success on the mound. Although his record was 0-2 he was able to compile a 2.93 earned run average while walking only five batters in 40 innings.

He capped off his season by earning a second-team All-Conference selection as a utilty player and was also voted MVP by his teammates.

"I'm very happy that my teammates voted me the MVP even though it's really a kind of hollow victory because of the year we had."

The Valley College baseball team finished the season at 5-15 in conference, 8-25-1 overall yet amid all of the losses Kostenbader's shone.

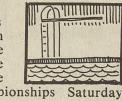
"Rob always came to play," said Chris Johnson, head coach. "He's a tough kid which really makes him a great competitor. He also never went in the tank when things started to go bad. His positive attitude set a very good example for the younger guys who needed someone to look up to.'

Within the next five years Kostenbader ideally envisions himself playing professionally in the minors, working his way up to The Show.

"I would love to play baseball for a living but I'm also very realistic," he said. "Honestly, I'd really love to be a lawyer. I feel more confident expressing myself with words than with numbers or figures."

"Ultimately, I've come to realize that I can practice law for the rest of my life. Unfortunately, I can't play baseball for the rest of my life as Swim round up-

The women's swim team made some moderate waves at the



state championships Saturday where they wrapped up their season in nineteenth place out of

50 teams. Swim star Kisa Kirkpatrick qualified for All-American with a fifth place win in the 200 individual medley timing her personal best at 2:19.2. She also placed sixteenth in the 50 butterfly.

The relay teams fared well as Jennifer Bartley, Robin Colvett, Kirkpatrick and Hanna Smits-Van-Oyen pulled up to tenth place

in the 400 freestyle (3:54.10) and eleventh in the 200 freestyle (1:46.1).

Overall, Bill Krauss, head swim coach, said he was very pleased with the swims and is now beginning to prepare for next season.

The team will be losing three of their top women including Bartley, Colvett and Kirkpatrick, but Krauss said Smits-Van-Oyen will remain and predicts that she will

Tim Frederickson will top the men's list next season but Krauss said not many members of the men's team will return. However, Krauss is beginning to recruit swimmers throughout the district.

Clarke leads way to finals

The power and the drive is running out of Valley's track team despite all the

bound to crash.

into it.



The athletes that competed in

last week's SoCal prelims all

qualified for the finals but accor-

ding to James Harvey, track

coach, Clarke is like an airplane

operating on three propellors and

"The team isn't coming through," Harvey said. "Some of

these guys forgot to put their shoes

On her own, Clarke took first

place in the 440m, the long jump,

the high jump and second in the 200m. She also made up some lost time in the mile relay and pushed team to first place.

Pam Martin ran an outstanding 100m hurdle race coming in second, Jill Cameron set her personal best in the javelin for sixth place and Shelbi Serpa took eleventh in the 800m.

As for the men's team, Robert Scott was the lone representative who managed to take second in the

'My only wish now is that God will keep Melanie healthy for the state championships," Harvey

The meet will be the SoCal finals which will be held in Bakersfield April 11 beginning at 4:30.



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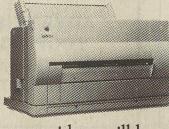
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